

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1-24 (Canceled)

Claims 25 and 26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus, comprising:
accumulation means for accumulating information about a related prior art document which is cited in a prosecution of a patent application in a first country and a related prior art document cited in another prosecution of a counterpart patent application in a second country different from the first country; and

display control means for displaying a list of the actual document numbers of the related prior art documents cited in each of the prosecutions of the patent application in the first country and the counterpart patent application in the second country together with the actual reference number of the patent application to be prosecuted.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein

said display control means displays a flag indicating whether or not a prior art disclosure procedure has been performed on the prior art document.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein

said display control means displays descriptions indicating correspondence between the prior art document and a rejection reason.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein

said display control means displays a list of applications by which the prior art document has been cited relating to the prior art document.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising the steps of:

accumulating information about a related prior art document which is cited in a prosecution of a patent application in a first country and a related prior art document cited in another prosecution of a counterpart patent application in a second country different from the first country; and

displaying and controlling a list of the actual document numbers of the related prior art documents cited in each of the prosecutions of the patent application in the first country and the counterpart patent application in the second country together with the actual reference number of the patent application to be prosecuted.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A program ~~storage medium storing a program for realizing~~ executed on a computer to perform an information processing method ~~for accumulating prior art documents relating to a patent application,~~ comprising the steps of:

a code ~~for realizing~~ to realize an accumulation step of accumulating information about a related prior art document which is cited in the prosecution of a patent application in a first country and a related prior art document cited in another prosecution of a counterpart patent application in a second country different from the first country; and

a code ~~for realizing~~ to realize a displaying and controlling a list of actual document numbers of the related prior art documents cited in each of the prosecutions of the patent application ~~in the first country and the counterpart patent application in the second country~~ together with the actual reference number of the patent application to be prosecuted.

Claims 33-35 (Canceled)